

FREDERICK COUNTY LIQUOR BOARD
Public Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 12, 2012

Those Present: Mr. James E. McClellan, Chairman
Mr. Charles R. Cline, Board Member
Mr. Richard E. Zimmerman, Board Member
Mrs. Linda B. Thall, Sr. Assistant County Attorney
Ms. Kathy L. Vahle, Administrator
Mr. Harold C. DeLauter, Alcoholic Bev. Inspector
Mrs. Sandra Rees, Administrative Specialist IV
Mrs. Penny Bussard, Administrative Specialist IV

A Public Meeting was held at 12 E. Church Street, Frederick, Maryland, and was called to order at 8:45 am by Chairman McClellan.

1. **Musket Ridge** – Ms. Vahle stated she received a request from this establishment to renovate the kitchen area on the clubhouse side and make it into a meeting room. The club will not close for this renovation period. The Board approved this request conditioned on the Liquor Inspector's approval.
2. **Isabella's** – Ms. Vahle stated she received a request from this establishment for a Caterer's License. The Board approved this request.
3. **Part-time Liquor Inspector** – Mr. Cline asked who would be attending the meeting today. Ms. Vahle stated she had contacted everyone involved with this discussion and did not hear from anyone.
4. **City of Frederick** – Ms. Vahle stated that Josh Russin from the City of Frederick emailed her a copy of the draft MOU for the Part-time Inspector after the City Attorney reviewed it.
5. **MALA Meeting** – Ms. Vahle stated the MALA Conference will be held May 11, 12 and 13 in Ocean City Maryland.
6. **Liquor Bills** – Ms. Vahle stated there are a number of liquor bills this year. There are some statewide bills, but locally there is Bill 321, that will allow the removal of tables and chairs for events. There is a Middletown Wine Festival Bill to have up to two wine festivals. Middletown is a beer only district. Mr. Cline stated there

is a bill proposed for the farmers to be able to have breweries on their farms and to have tastings like the wineries. The Comptroller's Office will license this. There are six people in Frederick County that want to have this capability.

7. **Draft of MOU between the City and the County** – Ms. Vahle stated that the City will be returning a portion of the liquor license revenues to hire a part-time Liquor Inspector that will be spending the majority of the time in the City. The only time they would go out of the City would be when there is an emergency. Both the City and the County Attorney's offices have reviewed the draft. Also the Liquor Board has reviewed it. Ms. Vahle stated that the Office of Human Resources will calculate the salary for this position. Mr. Cline stated he felt that Frederick County Government should have authority to hire this part-time Liquor Inspector. Ms. Vahle stated that the State code dictates that the Liquor Board hire the part-time inspectors. The Human Resources Department does not have to lift the hiring freeze because this hire is non-benefited. Chief Dine referenced over serving of alcohol as a cause for crime in the City so this part-time inspector is needed. Ms. Carol Krimm, Alderman for the City of Frederick stated she wanted to thank Commissioner Zimmerman for going to Annapolis and advocating for this position. The license fee issue has been a challenge in hiring this position. There will be a review of fees during the summer and Mr. Zimmerman will assist with this. Ms. Connie Koenig stated she felt there were too many licenses issued for Frederick City and they should be reviewed. She also proposed that the Liquor Board Commissioners donate their salaries for a year to go toward hiring a part-time Liquor Inspector. After the MOU is signed Ms. Vahle will go forward to process the hiring of a part-time inspector.
8. Decision Required: approval of the Minutes of the Public Meeting for February 13, 2012 to be voted on by the Board.

The Public Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2012 were approved.

MOTION: Mr. Cline made a motion to approve the minutes for February 13, 2012.

SECOND: Mr. Zimmerman seconded the motion.

FURTHER DISCUSSION

ON THE MOTION: There was no further discussion on the motion.

VOTE: Mr. Cline - Aye
Mr. Zimmerman -Aye
Mr. McClellan - Aye

The vote was unanimous. ***Aye – 3 Nay – 0***
(Motion Passed)

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Vahle, Administrator
FREDERICK COUNTY LIQUOR BOARD

Prepared by Sandra Rees